## STATE of WISCONSIN



Proclamation

WHEREAS; boating is a popular recreational activity enjoyed by millions of Americans, including many Wisconsinites who use boating as an opportunity to explore and appreciate the state's bountiful lakes, rivers, streams, and other waterways; and

WHEREAS; it is essential that all boaters adhere to safe boating practices and procedures, which include carrying lifesaving emergency distress and communications equipment, wearing life jackets, attending safe boating courses, participating in free boat safety checks, and staying sober when navigating; and

WHEREAS; according to the National Safe Boating Council, approximately 650 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the United States, with roughly 80 percent of these fatalities caused by drowning; and

WHEREAS; the vast majority of boating accidents are caused by human error or poor judgment and not by the boat, equipment, or environmental factors, underscoring the importance of practicing boat safety; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins the National Safe Boating Council and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary in encouraging all Wisconsinites to familiarize themselves with lifesaving boat safety tips to ensure that all boaters can have a safe and fun experience on the water this summer and throughout the year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 20 – 26, 2023, as

## NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023.

TONY EVERS GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI Secretary of State